



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Great Lakes & Ohio River Division

Flood Damage Reduction

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has a number of authorities for assisting States, local governments, and Native American Indian tribes in the reduction of flood damages. Most of these programs provide cost-shared support, not grants. This fact sheet will discuss authorities which may be applicable to sites within the Great Lakes region. These programs were authorized under the various Flood Control Acts (FCA) and Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA).

Flood Control

Authorization: Section 205 of FCA 1948, as amended.

Program Goals: To study, adopt and construct small flood control projects using structural or non-structural measures. The scale of projects under this authority is such that the Federal share on individual projects not exceed \$7,000,000.

Application: This authority has been used to construct over 35 projects in the Great Lakes region.

Cost Sharing: After the first \$100,000 of full Federal funding, the non-Federal partner must cost share 50 percent of the feasibility study and 35 percent of design and construction. The local partner is responsible for lands, easement, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal (LERRD).

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$40,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$35,800,000.

Planning Assistance to States

Authorization: Section 22 of WRDA 1974, as amended.

Program Goals: Support States and tribes in their comprehensive planning for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. Section 22 can also be used in watershed and ecosystem planning.

Cost Sharing: 50% Federal, 50% State or tribe.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$10,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$5,800,000.

Flood Mitigation and Riverine Restoration Program

Authorization: Section 212 of WRDA 1999.

Program Goals: To conduct flood damage reduction projects that conserve, restore, and manage hydrologic and hydraulic regimes and restore the natural functions and values of floodplains.

Application: This is a new authority that emphasizes, to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate, nonstructural approaches to preventing or reducing flood damages. The maximum Federal share on individual projects can not exceed \$30,000,000.

Cost Sharing: After the first \$100,000 of full Federal funding, the non-Federal partner must cost share 50 percent of the feasibility study and 35 percent of design and construction. The local partner is responsible for lands, easement, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal (LERRD).

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$20,000,000 Corps-wide.

Clearing & Snagging

Authorization: Section 208 of FCA 1954, as amended.

Program Goals: Undertake emergency clearing and snagging for flood control. The scale of projects under this authority is intended that the Federal share on individual projects not exceed \$500,000.

Application: This authority has been used for the removal of debris from rivers and streams, which accumulates at bridges, restricts flows and aggravates flooding.

Cost Sharing: After the first \$40,000 of full Federal cost, the non-Federal partner must cost-share 35 percent of planning, design and construction. The local partner must also provide all necessary lands, easement, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal (LERRD).

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$7,500,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$100,000.

Flood Plain Management Services

Authorization: Section 206 of FCA 1960, as amended.

Program Goals: Provide technical assistance to states, tribes, counties and cities in planning the prudent use of land subject to flooding from streams and lakes.

Application: Upon request, the Flood Plain Management Services program provides a full range of technical services and planning guidance on floods and flood plain issues within the broad umbrella of flood plain management.

Cost Sharing: This service is available to state and local governments without charge, within the limits of available appropriations. This support is available to other Federal agencies and private individuals on a fully reimbursable basis.

Budgetary: The FY 2000 Appropriations for this program (nationwide) is \$8.5 million.

Reconnaissance Study

Under the authority of Section 905(b) of WRDA 1986, the Corps can conduct a Reconnaissance Study of a wide range of potential water resources projects at full-Federal cost, not to exceed \$100,000. This study can be used to determine if flooding problems might be addressed using existing authorities or if a specifically authorized project should be pursued.

Reimbursable Support

Aside from the cost-shared authorities described above, the Corps can provide technical support to State, municipal and tribal agencies on a reimbursable basis.

For More Information

In order to obtain more information about the application of any of these programs in the Great Lakes basin, contact the following Corps District offices for sites in:

New York, PA and Ohio

Philip Berkeley
Buffalo District
716-879-4145
Philip.E.Berkeley@usace.army.mil

Michigan, MN and WI

Joseph Wanielista
Detroit District
313-226-7474
Joseph.R.Wanielista@usace.army.mil

Illinois and Indiana

Phil Bernstein
Chicago District
312-353-6400 ext 2000
Philip.R.Bernstein@usace.army.mil

For more examples of programs for flood control, check the Corps' Great Lakes Region web site:

www.lrd.usace.army.mil/gl/gl.htm